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SOURCE: Hua Sheng Pao.

NORTHWEST STEEL MILL RESUMES OPERATION;  
NORTH CHINA'S PRIVATE ENTERPRISES FLOURISH

MILL TAKEN OVER UNDAMAGED -- Hua Shang Pao, 26 Jul 49

The Northwest Steel Mill at T'ai-yüan, taken over by liberation forces on 20 April 1949, is again in operation. The mill was protected by the workers and was turned over undamaged.

Within the factory site of 275 acres, installations occupy an area of 42,146.8 square meters. The principal installations in this steel mill are two 2.8 steel refining furnaces (daily output, 150 tons), one 200-ton and one 50-ton iron-smelting furnace, 11 K'ao-pei /Chinese transliteration of a foreign name/ hot-air furnaces, one medium and one small steel-rolling machine, 3 high-pressure boilers (hourly output capacity, 23 tons of steam), two 5,000-kilowatt and one 6,000-kilowatt generators, one coke oven (daily output, 240 tons), and other small-scale equipment. When all machines are in use, they employ a force of about 10,000 workers.

The main products of the mill are railroad tracks, mountain guns, trench mortars, artillery shells, iron wire, lead wire, nails, gasoline, pitch, pure naphtha, etc., totaling about 20 different items.

Record monthly output figures include 1,342,490 tons of steel ingots, 1,995,020 tons of pig iron, 20,712 tons of gasoline and 23,379 tons of nails.

OUTPUT UP, PRICES DOWN -- Hua Shang Pao, 26 Jul 49

Pei-ping, 25 July 1949 (NCNA) -- Private enterprises in T'ien-ching, Pei-p'ing, Chi-nan, and other large cities in the liberated areas are doing a flourishing business.

The Tung-ya (East Asia) Industrial Corporation has already supplied 51,000 pounds of Australian wool yarn to the woolen mills. It is now negotiating for the purchase of machinery of various types and also is preparing to open a second hemp bag factory.

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The output of North China's largest telephone- and switchboard-manufacturing company, the T'ien-ching Electric Company, has reached the preliberation level, and plans are now being made to increase present output by 600 percent.

At present there are 19 flour mills operated in Pei-p'ing with a total maximum monthly output of 400,000 sacks of flour.

The number of vegetable oil factories in Chi-nan has increased from 19 before the liberation to 49 at the present time. Their total output in June 1949 was 492,700 pounds in comparison to 195,000 pounds produced in April.

Prices of commodities are coming down as a result of the increase in production. In 1949 it cost a farmer 195 pounds of wheat to get 130 pounds of bean cake, but now he can get it with 104 pounds.

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